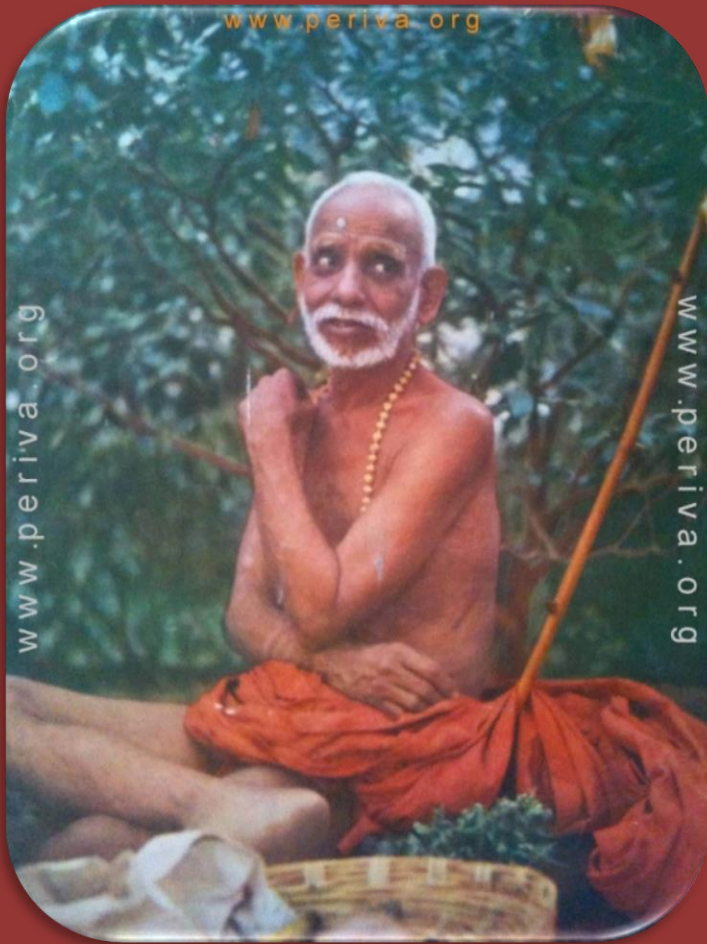


# E-Book from Kanchi Periva Forum

The Essence of Hindu Tradition and Culture

*Message for Children and the Youth*



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# Shri Kanchi Maha Periva Thiruvadigal Saranam

## Introduction

Hari Om!

Namaskaram. We are pleased to bring you our Thirtieth edition ebook, which is a special launch during this month of November, when we celebrate Children's day.

Most of our readers are aware of our efforts to bring out regular ebooks which are designed to protect and nourish our age old traditions, culture, devotion and spirituality. Apart from these standard ebooks, we have also published special series ebooks like those on Sri Maha Periva's Life History.

This month's ebook is one such special edition ebook focused on bringing out a compilation of Sri Maha Periva's upadesam and advices for Children & Youth. Sri Maha Periva has stressed that **Vidhya** and **Vinayam** (Learning and Humility) are like the two eyes of the youth. It is very important that this message is imbibed in the minds of today's youngsters.

We request readers to make note that this upadesam from Periva was given decades ago before the advent of the Television, Internet and the Mobile phones. As you read through the pages that follow, you will realize that every line that Sri Periva said is more relevant today.

We request every reader to forward / pass on this E-book to the youngsters in your family – your children, grandchildren, nephew, niece and even to all your friends, relatives and other devotees of Periva.

On behalf of this Forum and our respected members, I would also like to specially thank our moderator Smt Sumi, who has put in a lot of effort in putting this title together.

We humbly submit this e-book edition at the lotus feet of Shri Maha Periva. Though this book is for restricted circulation among like - minded members of the society, this is a free publication like all our other publications, which can be downloaded from <http://www.periva.proboards.com/> Any feedback or queries may be sent to us at [kanchiperiva@gmail.com](mailto:kanchiperiva@gmail.com)

Administrator

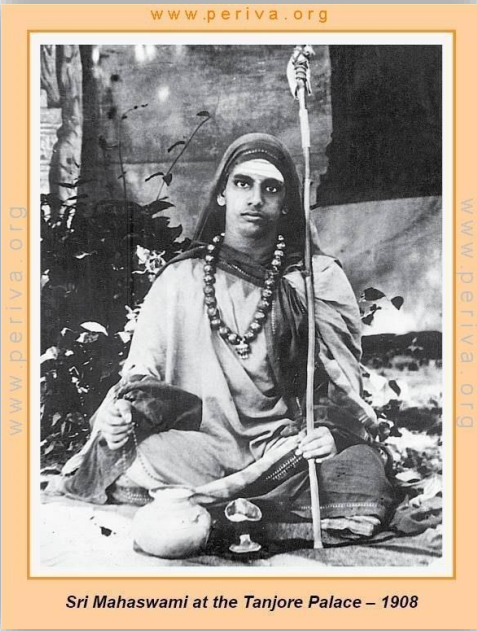
**Kanchi Periva Forum**

**Jaya Jaya Shankara, Hara Hara Shankara!**

## Message for the Children

Source: Deivathin Kural / Voice of God: Volume 7

### Your Home – Your Family



Your home is the family of which the father and mother are the heads. In the same manner, this whole world is a big family of which Iswara and Ambika are the father and mother. You should have bhakthi for your parents and Iswara and Ambal who are the parents of the large world family. Between your family and the world family, there is another family which is the school. Those who are your mates in the school are like your brothers. The head of this family is the teacher. You should treat him also like the father and the mother and show respect to him.

During your school days, your only duty is to study. Your entire attention should be directed to studies. This is not the time for you to engage yourself in other matters. Although there are several good things to be done, you should devote time to those things only after you have completed your studies. You should not indulge in such things thinking 'I have the energy and the mind to involve myself in those things

even now. Therefore I will embark upon those things which are good for the world'.

Suppose there is a person whose job is to carry a load on his head or shoulder. If he has a catch in his hip what will he do? Even if he is able to carry some load at that stage, he will not do so. He will first get well and then start carrying the load once he is completely well.

Doing good to the world is also like carrying a load. One needs energy for doing it. If without having sufficient energy one attempts to carry that load he will only fall ill physically and mentally. At a young age, when the mind has not become sufficiently strong, if activities other than studies are undertaken, the mind will become sick.

Already we have the diseases like desire, anger etc. We have got these diseases because we were carrying loads (of sins) in earlier birth. Every wrong action of ours gets collected together as load. This load of a body has come as a result of previous wrongs. The impressions of those wrongs are there in this body and that is why desire, anger etc. It is only to get rid of these wrongs we go to the school when we are young. The disease of ignorance is cured by the medicine of learning. Along with that, our bad qualities (gunas) also must go. For this learning alone is not enough. Humility is essential. If we are humble the bad qualities will get away. If we show devotion to parents, teacher and God and pay attention to studies, knowledge will grow and along with it good qualities.

If one is well only in studies and is without humility he cannot become a perfect man. Mere learning will only give rise to the pride: 'we know everything, we are intelligent'. Bhagawan will not help such persons. However intelligent one might be he cannot gain happiness in life if the Lord's grace is not there.

For the load of past mistakes, the remedy is learning. It is only after taking these medicines carefully and making the load light, we can carry other loads for doing good to the world. The doctor does not stop with giving medicines. He also gives instruction regarding what food is to be taken and which is to be avoided. Without following such instructions, a medicine will not be effective. If learning is a medicine for all of you, the food restriction is to have humility. With humility be devoted to God, parents and the teacher and concentrate on your studies; the Lord will protect you.

### **Physical cleanliness**

You are children and you should not suffer from itches etc. Itches will cause a lot of trouble. You cannot sit, eat, play, study etc. Such skin diseases are caused by accumulation of dirt on the body. Therefore the body should be kept clean. You have to take regular bath using soap or any other good powder. It is good if bath is taken twice in a day, in the morning and evening. If you get used to cold water bath even when young, you will never be affected by cold, cough etc. A cold bath will be invigorating. It helps the mind to be peaceful and happy. We will feel active when doing work.

You have to be clean in all respects. Next to cleanliness of body is cleanliness of dress. If the dress you wear is dirty, taking bath will not help. Dirt in the clothes you wear will also cause diseases. If clothes are given for wash, they will be washed white and bright, but better than that is for you to wash your clothes yourself. Washing your clothes will be an exercise for you. If you wash your own clothes and make them white and bright, you will have a feeling of satisfaction and pride. You parents will also be happy. Expenditure on account of getting the clothes washed will be avoided.

### **Clean Mind**

There is something more than the body and the clothes. That is the mind. Purity of mind is important. Without that mere cleanliness of body and clothes will be of no use. The mind should be 'cleansed' constantly and kept pure. What is the dirt that covers the mind? The wrongs that we commit. Our actions should not be wrong. That is we should not do anything with a wrong aim.

But once some activity is undertaken, even when doing good, some wrongs might creep in. That is not a significant blemish. Even when elders engage themselves in doing something good, they slip and commit wrong. Such mistakes happen for us to realize that we cannot by ourselves achieve things but that the Bhagawan's grace is necessary. During such times, you have to pray to the Lord. That itself will remove the dirt of the mind.

### **Uttering Lies and Fear**

But when you commit a wrong, how do you feel? It irritates your mind like dirt. Then you feel that the dirt should not be seen by others and you want to hide it. When you have committed a wrong, if you



Sri Mahaswami at Thiruvanaikaval, Trichy - 1908

pray immediately, that dirt will go away; the prayer itself acting like a soap. But instead of that if it is attempted to hide the wrong then a lie has to be uttered. If dirt is not washed but allowed to remain, it will cause a skin disease. In the same manner, if wrong is covered up by a lie, it becomes a disease. The most fearful disease that spoils the mind is telling lies.

Why do we try to hide our wrongs? We do it either because we want others to think that we are good or because we are afraid of someone. The disease of lie shows itself as the disease of fear.

You must have respect and devotion for all elders but meaningless fear should not be there. Fear is dirt that spoils the mind. Even if a wrong is committed, the elders should be told of it with humility but no attempt should be made to

hide it by telling a lie. If the wrong is told to others truthfully, they will pardon. Even if they do not pardon but mete out some punishment, that too does not matter. They have the right to do so. We have to accept the punishment with courage, thinking, 'we did a wrong thing; therefore we have received the punishment due for it'. Courage, truth etc, are like soap and other detergents that remove dirt.

## Jealousy

Another big dirt that easily accumulates in children is jealousy. If another boy is better than them in studies or sports or he is well dressed or he is dropped at the school by a car, they immediately become jealous of him. Such jealousy will spoil the mind and lead to various types of quarrels which will affect the studies. Jealousy does not help in any way. It only results in our spoiling our mind ourselves.

There should be the spirit of competition only in one thing. When another boy gets more marks we should make efforts to study hard and get high marks like him. This kind of competition too should not give room for jealousy. It should be even so in sports.

For keeping the body fit and the mind happy, all of you must play. Even without my telling, you will be interested in play. Hence a little caution is necessary. Such play should not affect your studies. The desire to play should be kept under check so that studies are not affected.

When it is games, there will be the desire to defeat the other person or team. Here too competition becomes unavoidable. There is nothing wrong about it. But it should not result in jealousy for the other who wins. We should consider the winner a role model and be friendly to him and he should not be treated as an enemy.



### **Friendship and brotherhood**

To be friendly with all the students will help in keeping the mind pure. In the Lord's family, all of us are his children. Therefore we should develop the feeling of the brotherhood more than that of the friendship. There is nothing else that gives greater joy.

Why is another student more capable than us in studies or sports that we want to compete with them? We have several lives. The boy who had done more good than us in the previous life has been blessed more by God. We should not feel jealous of them.

Similarly, we should not think low of those who are not as comfortably placed as we are or who are not as intelligent or as good looking. Feeling pride is a big disease. They may be below us in wealth or intelligence or looks because in the previous life they have committed more wrongs than us. But if we develop pride, that itself is a greater wrong than all the wrongs they have committed. The result is that in the next birth we will be far below what they are now.

There are still some more forms of dirt. We should never think of speaking ill of someone or ridicule him in his absence. If we find any mistake in what someone does, we should point it out to him with love. But we should not talk about it to others and derive pleasure out of such talk. That would be sheer cowardice. When we talk like this, the person about whom we talk may not be there. But the Lord is everywhere. He will mete out punishment some day or the other. No one can escape it.

### **Cleansing the dirt**

Just as soap and other powders remove the dirt on the body, truth, courage and the attitude of give and take are the detergents that remove the dirt of lies, fear, jealousy, etc. But even for using soap etc, water is required. Similarly, the water that helps clean the dirt in the mind is devotion to God. It is our prayer to the Lord which is like a bath in the Ganges.

Right from early years, everyone should remain alone for atleast five minutes every day and think of God. What cannot be cultivated at an early age cannot be cultivated later. Therefore the good habits of daily prayer must be started right now. First we should think of our parents and the teacher and pray to them. Then we should think of the Lord who is the father of all beings in this world starting from an ant. Just as daily bath is necessary to keep the body clean, doing prayer is necessary.

### **The Lord's love and rules of Dharma**

The sun is so big! It is said that the stars are much bigger. How great should be the Lord who has created all these! Such a big one is wanting us, the children, to pray to Him. He only does good to all the beings in the world starting from the worm. How much love He must be having in His heart!

Not only that. Does He do things in a disorderly manner as we all do? There is no one above Him to whom He is answerable. Yes, in what an orderly manner He makes the earth rotate and creates the day and the night! Similarly He makes the earth go round the sun in a year and creates the seasons. He has



created order and discipline in everything. We too should have love in our hearts like him. We should be disciplined in what we do. It is this discipline that is called dharma.

If you pray to the Lord who is of the form of love and dharma, we too will acquire these. To think of His love and feel grateful to Him is the bath that removes the dirt of our minds.

### **Pray to become good children**

It is so easy to get a bad name. But once there is such a stigma, what all difficulties and shame we will suffer. It will be difficult to progress in life. It may look that it is difficult to become a good boy, but if there is God's grace we can achieve that easily.

You have to hold on to the lotus feet of the Lord and pray: "I have no other go; you only have to take me on the right

path'. The Lord will definitely grant such a prayer coming from tender hearts. To attain purity of mind at a tender age is easy. But if the muck of dirt accumulates, even the thought of speaking in the right path will not arise in the mind. Therefore pray to the Lord even from today. He will ensure that no dirt sticks to you and will protect you.

### **Mother and Father of the world**

It is the Lord who conducts this whole world. We humans are in this. So are animals, birds, worms, insects, trees, plants, creepers etc. The family consisting all of us and these is the world. It is the Lord who conducts the affair of this family. Our small family is managed both by the mother and father. A number of things are needed to run a family and money is required to obtain them. The father goes out, earns and brings money with which he purchases the things needed for the family. The mother actually runs the home using these things and does all the work at home.

The Lord is much bigger than us. He is more powerful than us. Therefore he manages the family of the world by Himself both as father and mother.

Our father and mother always think of our good, bear all the troubles for the sake of our happiness. The only aim of our parents is that we should grow up as good and intelligent people, should progress well in life. It is because of this aim that sometimes they take us to task. Because of this we should not get angry with them. We should realize that they are strict with us only because they are thinking of our good. Even if they become angry it is because of their love for us. It is because of their love, they attend to all our needs, educate us, take care of us when we become sick, etc. If we try to see where from such love has come, it has come from the Lord only. It is the Lord in the form of the mother and the father who is showing His love to us.



### **Mother and Father – the first God we know**

We should think of the father and the mother as the God. As a reverse of this, we should see the Lord in the form of mother and father.

Avai the (Tamil) saint poetess says her first advice to children: 'The mother and the father are the God we know first'. It is only after that she says, 'Worship at the temple does so much good'. When we worship at temple, we should think of the idol there as our mother and father.

When it is said that the Lord is everywhere, He cannot have a form like us. But how to think of someone who has no form? Therefore we should think of him in the form of the mother and the father. Of all the people we know, it is the father and mother who show so much love to us. We are happy only if we think of those who love us. Therefore we should think of the Lord as mother and father combined and practice bhakthi to Him. He is *Parvati* the Mother and *Paremeshwara* the Father. He is *Lakshmi* the Mother and *Vishnu* the Father. He is *Sita* the mother and *Rama* the father.

Even if we think of these figures, we feel happy. We feel love.

### **The mind and intellect must be clear**

Our buddhi is clear only when there is love and happiness in the mind. If we study when the buddhi is clear, we understand the lessons well. When there is anger, sorrow, jealousy etc, the buddhi becomes confused. When that happens, we are unable to absorb what we study.

Daily for sometime if you think of the Lord as Parvathi-Parameswara or Mahalakshmi-Mahavishnu, the mind will become good, the buddhi will become clear. You will be able to study well and pass creditably.

Even if one is very intelligent and passes with high marks, if he does not earn a good name, there is no use. If we are good, it will make us happy and make others happy and will help us to progress in life. It is the bhakthi we have for the Lord that will make us good and intelligent.

### **Be of help to others**

Now all of us are in the shade of a tree\*. A plant which was so small some years ago has become the huge tree and is providing shade to all of us. You who are young today, when grown up should help several people like this tree.

(\*This is a discourse made under a tree in a school)

If we want to progress well in life, it is only for helping others. If we earn a lot and spend the entire thing for ourselves, the Lord will not be pleased. Just as we are His children, those who are poor, those who are sick, orphans and others are also His children. If we do not help those children and spend all our money on ourselves, the Lord will not bestow His grace on us. Therefore all of you should render to this world whatever help you can. You will have a lot of satisfaction and happiness by doing such help. If you give to a poor person what you eat, you will get greater joy. We are born only to help others. If



you render to others whatever help you can and make them happy, the Lord will be pleased and bestow His grace on you.

If others have a good opinion of you, they will also follow you in worshipping the Lord. They will also get the joy and good intellect that comes out of bhakthi. Therefore your being devoted to the Lord becomes a help greater than every other kind of help.

Jealousy, anger etc, will show their face now and then. There will be a temptation to indulge in bad acts. But if the mind is allowed to dwell on such things, studies will be spoiled. That is why every day once on getting up in the morning and again before going to sleep, you should pray to the Lord.

Supposing there is a strong gust wind that is about to topple us, we catch hold of a pillar. In the same manner, when anger and jealousy affect us, we should catch hold of the Lord who is the mother and father. He will save us from falling. Therefore, right from today, daily pray to the Lord twice. Pray with love: 'I should not fall into bad ways. Guide me on the right path'. By this the mind will become good. Buddhi will become steady, you will do well in studies, get into a good job and live a life of help to all others.

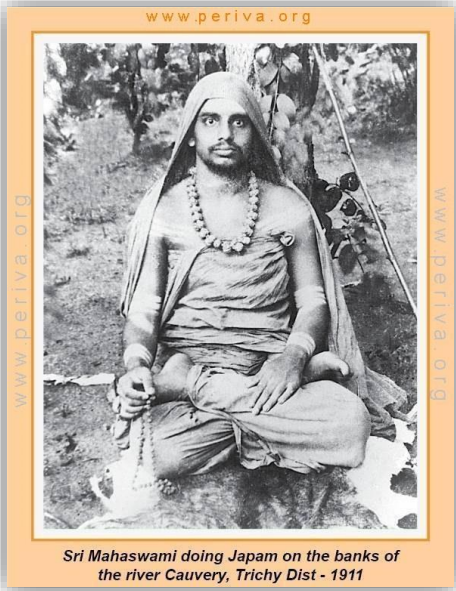
### Arohara

In the beginning, I spoke about Mother *Parvathi*. Her husband is *Parameswara*. He who is *ParvathiPathe* is the father of the whole world. Since He is great God He is also called Mahadeva. A child like you was worshipping him by continuously reciting the name Hara Hara – that child was *Jnanasambandhar*. People saw this child going from place to place calling out Hara Hara and they too started raising 'Arohara'. Whatever was bad in those times was driven away by that sound. The world was rid of its suffering. The child *Sambandhar* sang *Thevaram* so that Hara Hara sound will be raised permanently and the world will be free from trouble.

Now I will say 'Namah Parvathi Pathaye'. You should all think of Mother *Parvathi* and Her husband and our Father *Parameswara* and say with devotion 'Hara Hara Mahadeva'.

Namah Parvathi Pathaye  
Hara Hara Mahadeva

## Message for Adult Students



Youth is the stage in life when emotions tend to go beyond limits. So the youth who are in colleges are naturally victims of emotion. Added to this are politics, cinema, newspapers, sports etc, which add to such an emotion. Therefore it is doubly difficult for the students to remain disciplined. But keeping their future in view, they have to cope up with this. If the youth lose discipline and self control, they will be spoiled, peace at home will be destroyed and lack of peace in the country will affect its very roots.

It is only to keep the emotions under check during youth, our ancestors had taught humility and devotion to the guru and God right from the time they started learning alphabets.

### Bhakthi is Essential

Although the old gurukula system is no more in vogue, there is no other way except bhakthi and humility to keep emotions under check and protect the youth. Bhakthi to God, respect to parents and the teachers are very essential for students.

To pray to God everyday for fifteen to thirty minutes both in the morning and evening, going to temple regularly, listening to the stories of holy men and women, reading books connected with divinity – all these will do good. Here too I have cautiously said fifteen to thirty minutes because for students studies are important. They have to concentrate more on that. Basically if all students have firm faith in God and if it is in their mind that God alone should lead them on the right path, allotting time for prayer is only secondary.

Those who are good in studies may be able to spend more time for prayer and those who are not so may have to spend more time for their studies and less for prayer.

Even when saying that during periods of study one need not spend too much time on God related matters, it will be necessary to emphasize that if there is no involvement in matters relating to God, proper growth of the mind will be affected. If thought of God and following the rules of dharma which flow from it are not there, human life itself is a waste.

### Develop Good Conduct

The reason why this subject is being brought up is that unfortunately in the present scheme of education, rightful place has not been accorded to belief in God and teaching of ethical values that go with it. If these have found a place in the curriculum, students need not have to spend extra time for these during weekly holidays and vacations.

Sangams should be organized everywhere to enable them to have religious teaching and teaching of morals. The elders in different segments should come together to engage themselves in this important task and organize sangams. This is an important work to make our young men grow as noble men and women. Young people must make full use of the same.

### **Politics – never**

Earlier, I have mentioned about politics, cinema, newspapers, sports. Of these, students should not at all take to politics. It may be said that the country's affairs are based on politics. Even so, to conduct the affairs of the country in an intelligent way, education is a must. To get into political activities which obstruct education will only aggravate emotion and end in spoiling oneself. This is because honest people and honest policies are becoming rare and politics is only a fertile field for selfish ends and mutual recrimination. In this situation, if youth who have not attained maturity jump into it, what will happen?

Even if politics is different from what it is and is conducted on the lines of dharma, there is an appropriate time for it and therefore students who have to complete their education, take up a job and the responsibility of life, should not jump into the political fray.

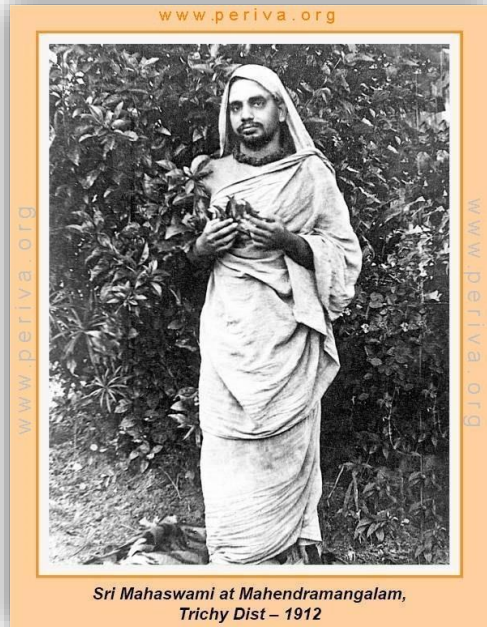
The duty to be performed during the period of education is only learning. Indulging in political activities to the detriment of education will cause harm now and in the future and will have adverse effect on the conduct of national affairs.

The learning during the period of education and bhakthi and humility which are observed to check the force of emotion will only make the youth good citizens committed to the ways of dharma. The youth must realize: 'We should first of all acquire the power of knowledge, the strength of dharma and the aid of the divine power for conducting the national affairs on right lines. Only if we strengthen ourselves in all these respects, we will be able to carry the load of national problems with ease. Therefore, at a stage when we have not acquired these strengths to engage in political activities is not good for us and the country'.

Of these, one has to gain the intellectual power through education in college. Moreover the situation is that it is only with that we can take up a job and manage the home. If education is affected, one will not be able to manage his own home. How can such a person manage the affairs of the country?

Politicians will think of their own interest and try to draw the students to their side. School managements and the elders at home should keep advising the students and see that they do not become victims of such pulls. This advice should be given to students in a manner that they do not get bored of it. The teachers have a role here, a great service to perform. The big leaders in the countries also should do necessary propaganda and create awakening among students.

### **Service without hindrance to studies**



In all educational institutions, extra curricular activities are a part of education. Service to the society and the country could be rendered by students within the ambit of extra curricular activities without hindrance to studies. It will be good for the students to confine themselves to such services as are rendered under the auspices of their educational institutions. It is not necessary for them to engage themselves in public activities beyond this. If they have to spare time after studies, they can go for service through other institutions with the permission of parents. What is important is that studies should not be affected.

Here educational institutions also should be careful. Since public activities can get a name to the institution they should not give room for too much of such activity by which those who lag behind in studies will not be able to improve.

Students should be grouped according to their capability in studies and they should be allowed to engage in public activities only according to what they are capable of. But even while rendering service to others, they should completely avoid any connection with political parties.

### **Cinema, drugs, newspapers, narcotics**

Except documentaries which are educative, cinema is to be totally avoided. My view is that it is also like politics. From what I hear of present day cinema, I cannot have a different view. But for anyone, if there is no pleasant relaxation, life will become suffocating.

In this age of freedom, this point cannot be ignored. Therefore I shall relax my view a little and say that the students may once in a way see a picture which is known to be of good quality among what is available.

What I said about cinema also applies to other forms of relaxation. Since dance, music and drama have been there all along, I make a big concession and say that they may attend these performances within limits. The danger in this is that once you take to these they become addictive. I spoke of narcotics. Starting from coffee and cigarette there are many. Students should not take them at all. There is no scope here for me to relax as I did in the case of cinema etc. Students should not go near coffee, cigarette and other things which I do not like to mention \*.

(\*This was said at a time when use of drugs had not spread in a big way)

The next thing that exerts a pull is newspaper/magazine. It appears that these days many of the papers whip up feelings and emotions. Newspapers and magazines can present a lot of things relating to spirituality, culture, the good of the world and for improving our knowledge etc. But it appears that the



reality is different. When this is so, it will be difficult for the students to choose what is good and do selective reading. Because it is difficult, it should not be given up. I am aware that it is easy to say a thing but it is difficult to do it. But since students have to do well in their studies and become good citizens of the world, this difficulty has to be managed and therefore I say this. In fact, when I see how they are being pulled in different directions, I feel pity for them. I pray to the Lord.

Finally, I come to sports. This, it appears, to be the foremost concern of the students now. Play and sports are indeed necessary for students. To improve stamina, to relax and enjoy and to develop team spirit and a certain discipline, sports do help. Anything done in excess is bad. It appears that it has become the case with sports.

People talk of a sense of proportion. This should be kept in mind and daily half an hour can be spent on sports. But it should not become a whole time affair.

These days, youth spend time not in playing games but in witnessing matches and spending still more time on commentaries and reading the sports column of papers \*. When I hear what they spend hours together like this daily, I feel that it is not a sign of intelligence that they do this when they have to study so much for their examination. I feel that our students should not get such a name.

(\* This was said before the advent of T.V)

### **Educational institutions of olden times**

On the whole these days youth has become a stage in which there is the conflict of opposing forces. This is the stage when there is vigor and enthusiasm. But this is also the stage when a lot of self control and discipline is necessary. In olden times, boys went to gurukulam even at the age of eight.

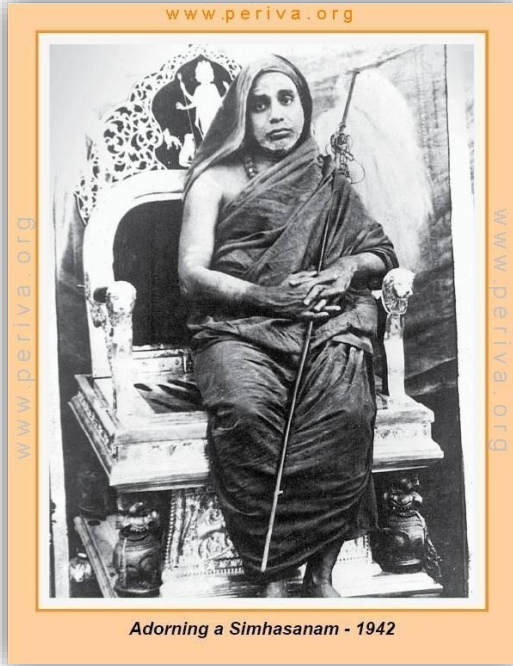
They grew up in the gurukulam where there was very little freedom combined with greater strictness, with the result that when they grew up, control and discipline come naturally to them. But these days, even during the stage of foundation, in one's own home, youngsters grow up with a lot of freedom and without any control or discipline. This is reflected in the educational institutions also.

This happens because of the differences between a gurukulam and home. In one's home, parents are generally pampering their children. Because of their love, they are not strict. It was different in the gurukulam. Guru used to show his love to the extent necessary, but otherwise he was strict. When there is no control at home and control is attempted in the educational institutions, youngsters tend to revolt.

### **Discipline is needed**

What is the use of talking about gurukula system now? It will amount of dreaming about something which is impossible. But something needs to be done to deal with the freedom that the youth have in the absence of gurukula system. But if they are to be subjugated in the manner of animals, it is not respectable to them. As human beings, they have to subject themselves to self control. If the youngsters have the keenness that their youth should not get wasted instead of growing up as good





human beings, they will submit themselves to control. How to create in them this keenness? It is the elders who have to keep telling them continuously and with love. They too should live a disciplined life. Otherwise, their advice will be of no use. Young people who have developed strong notions of generation gap will not listen. Even if they are not conscious of such gap, the modern thinkers and psychologists create this feeling in them. It appears that there is a big question mark about the elders of these days following a disciplined lives themselves. What value will their words have? Atleast in the interest of the younger generations the elders must begin following a disciplined life.

For the youth to bring themselves under discipline and control will be respectable for them instead of being disciplined by others. In today's situation, if they become examples to elders, that will be a creditable achievement.

The young are keen about adventure. At least some of them should take up this adventure and make others follow them. This is my desire. **For this I pray to Anjaneyaswami more than whom there is no one learned, no one who performed courageous feats and no one who has humility combined with bhakthi.**

It may appear that I am wishing for something impossible to happen. One may wonder how self control can be expected from the youth when that is not possible for the elders. I do not expect that all young people will become like that. I expect seven or eight out of a hundred to become like that. Although what I say may appear strange, it is the elders who have got used to indiscipline over a long period who cannot come out of it. The youth are not like that.

Once they decide to do a thing, they have the ability to achieve it. If seven or eight percent of them do it, I think that is enough. Unlike the older people, the youth are dynamic and they will be able to influence others and draw them to their ways of discipline. That is what I believe.

### **A new type of students union**

These days students have unions and they fight for their rights. Instead of that, they should form a union which will ensure for them the true right to elevate themselves as great men. If in each college, seven or eight good boys can come together for this, they will be able to persuade others and form such a union. **At an age when they come forward to do things with a confidence in their ability, if a few of them take up this task with humility, the whole scene will change and it will become a golden age.**

When feelings and emotions take hold like a disease, education is a remedy for it. Education should be such that it develops not just brain power but makes persons perfect. When medicines are administered, there are always strict regulations regarding food etc. In fact, such regulations help more in the cure than the medicine itself. Humility and simplicity have been prescribed as the regulations for taking the medicine of education. **Vidhya** and **Vinayam** (Learning and humility) are like the two eyes of the youth.

If we are humble now, we can rise in the status later. The example of the dust on the feet is usually given. It is under our feet as small particles. Suddenly it goes up due to wind and rises above our head. This truth must be realized by our youth who are the inheritors of our great culture and civilization.

### **Develop the good and curtail the bad**

In the world, there will be good as well as bad. This has been so in the time of creation. The Lord has allowed bad things also to prevail here so that in the end we will realize 'this worldly life is not true including what appears to be good. What is beyond this world and beyond **maya** is only true. Our goal should be to go from here to that true state'.

This world of ours is called '**Misra lokam**', that is things in it are mixed – a mixture of the good and the bad. In **Deva lokam** everything is good. In **Asura lokam** everything is bad. In this world of humans, the two are mixed. That is the rule laid down by Iswara. But if bad things become dominant we will get sunk in them and we will not be able to achieve the goal of reaching the true state. This should not be allowed to happen. In earlier ages (yugas) also, the good and bad were mixed, but there was preponderance of the good in Krutha **Thretha** and **Dwapara** yugas. Even if the good was not too much on the high side, atleast the good and bad were equal. Sasthras say that in **Kali**, the situation will change and the bad will become more than the good. But this does not mean that it will be entirely bad and that the good will get wiped out completely. If that happens, the name of this world that is '**Misra**' will become false and it will become **Asura lokham**. Moreover, in the same Sasthras, remedies have been prescribed for the evils of **Kali**. It only shows that good has atleast a forty percent space for itself. We should not allow this level of good to go down further.

For this, we should nurture what is good and cut down what is bad. It is true that the bad cannot be reduced to zero level. But it has to be reduced to the extent that it does not overpower good.

This is an issue of general concern and I have spoken about this with particular reference to the youth. It does not mean that I expect that the whole thing will be reformed and I ask for it. I have spoken whatever is within my knowledge in order that things can be corrected to the extent possible.

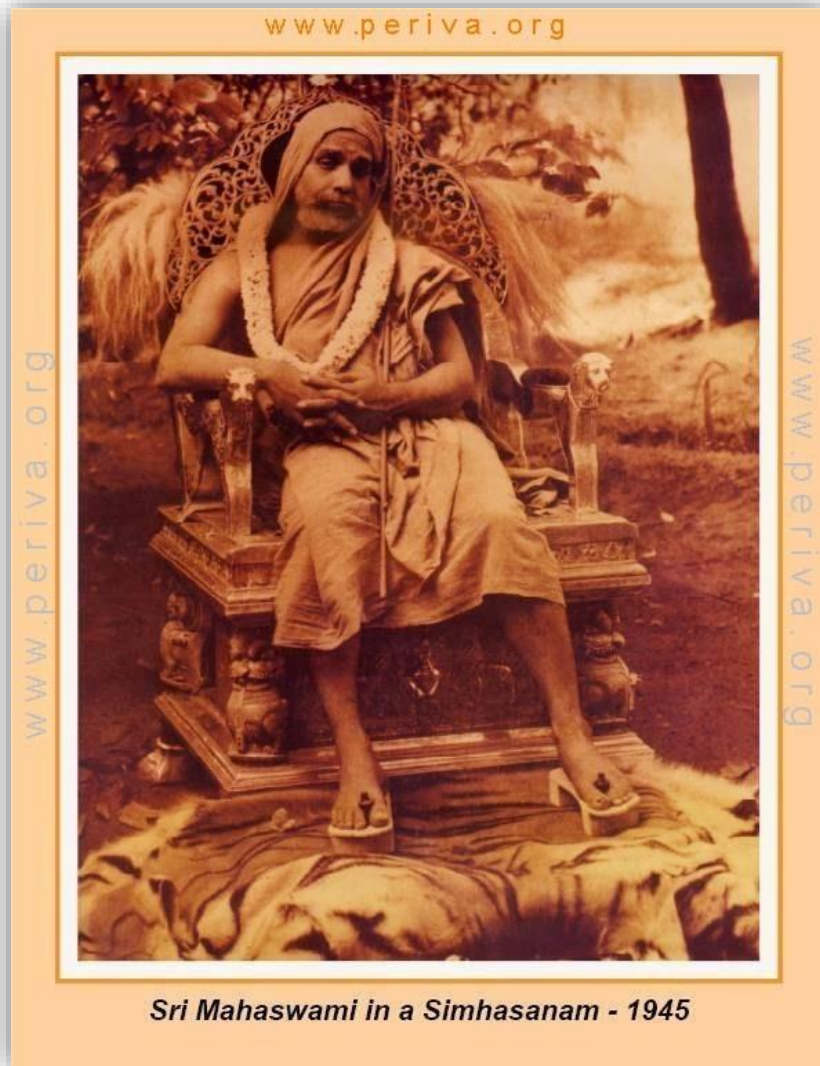
My view is that the stuff of which our youth is made is of high quality. Just as verdigris covers good metal undesirable aspects have caught hold of them. If dirt has to be removed and made clean this has to be done by the elders and also by the youth themselves. There is definitely place for good in this world; people – the elders and the youth together – have to ensure this. More than all this the Lord's grace should make it possible.

Original Tamil Version available from this link onwards: <http://www.kamakoti.org/tamil/7dk145.htm>

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1. <http://kamakoti.org/>
2. Voice of God - Published by Sri Kanchi Mahaswami Peetarohana Shatabdi Mahotsava Trust



**Jaya Jaya Shankara, Hara Hara Shankara!**